

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 HA-05 ISO-00 CU-04 BIB-01 COME-00 OMB-01  
IO-13 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 EB-08 /096 W  
-----061354 170729Z /10

O R 170505Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5229  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 1300

FOR EUR/RPM, JOHN KORNBLUM, FROM USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: CSCE, ECON  
SUBJ: BELGRADE CSCE -- ALLIES AGREE TO TABLE COMMON PAPER,  
MINUS FRANCE, FEBRUARY 21

REF: A) BELGRADE 1281; B) BELGRADE 1262; C) BELGRADE 1216;  
D) STATE 40775

SUMMARY: FRENCH FILED THEIR DRAFT CONCLUDING DOCUMENT  
AFTER INFORMING NATO CAUCUS FEBRUARY 16 AFTERNOON THAT  
FURTHER CHANGES TO BRING IT MORE FULLY INTO LINE WITH  
ALLIED VIEWS WERE NOT POSSIBLE. ALLIES AGREED TO LET  
FRENCH PAPER HAVE A FEW DAYS' RUN AND THAT AFTER ITS  
EXPECTED REJECTION BY SOVIETS, OTHER ALLIES WOULD  
TABLE STRONG COMMON WESTERN PAPER BASED ON EXISTING CAUCUS  
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DRAFT FEBRUARY 21. U.S. AND DENMARK WILL BE COPROPOSERS.  
FRG, UK AND PROBABLY NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL ALLIES WILL COSPONSOR.  
WE HAVE AGREED WITH FRENCH THAT NEITHER OF US WILL  
SPEAK AGAINST OTHER'S PROPOSAL. END SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR RICHER ADVISED RESUMED NATO  
CAUCUS AT 1630 FEBRUARY 16 THAT PARIS HAD AGREED

TO INSERT SINGLE ADDITIONAL REFERENCE TO "CERTAIN INSUFFICIENCIES" IN CONCLUDING IMPLEMENTATION SECTION OF FRENCH DRAFT. OTHERWISE DRAFT REMAINS AS TRANSMITTED REF B WITH ADDITION OF HANDFUL OF RELATIVELY MINOR CHANGES ACHIEVED LAST NIGHT BY EC-9 CAUCUS (REF A). FRENCH GAVE THEIR TEXT TO SECRETARIAT IMMEDIATELY AFTER CAUCUS SO THAT IT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR FEBRUARY 17 PLENARY.

2. OTHER ALLIES AGREED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO PUT BEST POSSIBLE FACE ON SITUATION. ALLIES WILL SEEK TO LEAVE BURDEN OF RESPONSE WITH SOVIETS. A FEW ALLIES WILL SPEAK AND NOTE THAT THERE ARE POSITIVE ELEMENTS IN FRENCH DRAFT, AND THAT IT REFLECTS WILLINGNESS TO SEEK BASIS FOR SERIOUS NEGOTIATION. THEY WILL ALSO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT IN CERTAIN AREAS IT MAY NOT BE FULLY SATISFACTORY AND THAT WEST CANNOT GO BELOW NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNED (NNA) PAPER. AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG DOES NOT PLAN TO SPEAK ON FRENCH PAPER AT PLENARY.

3. INITIAL REPORTS FROM AROUND CONFERENCE CENTER CONTRIBUTE TO UNANIMOUS CAUCUS SENTIMENT THAT FRENCH DRAFT HAS VIRTUALLY NO CHANCE TO PRODUCE REAL NEGOTIATION. SOVIET BASKET TWO CHIEF, FOR EXAMPLE, TOLD US DELOFF THAT SOVIET DELEGATION HAS SENT TEXT TO MOSCOW WITH NEGATIVE COMMENTS. POLISH AMBASSADOR IS REFERRING TO IT AS "NON-NON-PAPER." EVEN SOME NNA CONFIDENTIAL

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APPEAR NOT TO REGARD IT AS HOPEFUL DEVELOPMENT. SWISS AMBASSADOR TOLD AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG THAT TABLING OF FRENCH DRAFT AT THIS TIME WAS INAPPROPRIATE AND NOT CONSTRUCTIVE.

4. ALLIES AGREED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO TABLE A TEXT STRONGER THAN THOSE PRODUCED BY FRENCH AND NNA THAT WOULD REFLECT FOR PUBLIC WHAT WEST HAS BEEN SEEKING AT BELGRADE AND, IN EFFECT, SET A COURSE FOR MADRID MEETING. EXCEPT FOR CANADA AND NORWAY WHO INDICATED THEY PREFERRED TO PUT SUCH A PAPER OUT FEBRUARY 17, OVERWHELMING CAUCUS SENTIMENT WAS TO TABLE IN PLENARY FEBRUARY 21. CAUCUS FELT THAT THIS WOULD GIVE FRENCH FAIR CHANCE TO TRY THEIR NEGOTIATING PLOY AND THAT TABLING TWO WESTERN PAPERS AT SAME TIME WOULD GIVE SOVIETS TOO EASY AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLOIT DIVISIONS. NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS INDICATED THEY COULD SUPPORT ENTHUSIASTICALLY OR EVEN POSSIBLY COSPONSOR SUCH A PAPER IF IT WAS INTRODUCED NEXT WEEK BUT WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY BREAKING TOO OBVIOUSLY WITH FRENCH FEBRUARY 17. AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG CONCURRED FULLY IN CAUCUS CONSENSUS.

5. IN SMALLER MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG

SUBSEQUENT TO CAUCUS, FRG, UK AND DANISH AMBASSADORS SAID THEY WOULD COSPONSOR WITH US ON FEBRUARY 21. US AND DENMARK WILL COPROPOSE. OTHER ALLIES ARE SEEKING INSTRUCTIONS ON COSPONSORSHIP. FRENCH AMBASSADOR HAS SAID THAT REGARDLESS OF SOVIET REACTION TO FRENCH PROPOSAL, FRENCH DEL WILL STICK WITH ITS DRAFT BUT WILL OF COURSE NOT SPEAK AGAINST COMMON ALLIED TEXT.

6. CAUCUS DRAFTING GROUP WILL MEET AT 1000 FEBRUARY 17 TO POLISH DRAFT TRANSMITTED REF C. WE EXPECT IT TO RECEIVE FINAL APPROVAL FROM HEADS OF NATO DELS AT CAUCUS JUST PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 17 PLENARY AND WE WILL CABLE ANY CHANGES FROM REF C TEXT TO DEPARTMENT.

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7. AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG ALSO DISCUSSED WITH FRG, UK AND DANISH AMBASSADORS HOW ALLIES MIGHT BEST EXPRESS COMMON ASSESSMENT OF CONFERENCE RESULTS. IT WAS AGREED, AS SUGGESTED REF D, THAT MOST APPROPRIATE VEHICLE WOULD BE FINAL SPEECHES IN LAST WEEK OF OPEN PLENARY AND THAT ALLIES SHOULD WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER ON THIS MATTER. GOLDBERG

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